

Listing of claims:

1-32. (Cancelled)

33. (New) A nail polish remover composition comprising:

between 85% and 98% by weight of propylene carbonate solvent;

between 1.5% and 15% by weight water; and

an effective amount of a pH-buffering agent that is chemically inert in said composition and that maintains the pH of said composition between approximately pH 2.0 and pH 6.0,

wherein said composition is free of peroxide, and any organic co-solvent present is a low vapor pressure volatile organic compound (LVP-VOC) or a low reactivity volatile organic compound (LR-VOC).

34. (New) The nail polish remover composition of claim 33, consisting essentially of said propylene carbonate solvent, said water, and said pH-buffering agent.

35. (New) The nail polish remover composition of claim 33, consisting essentially of said propylene carbonate solvent, said water, said pH-buffering agent, a glycol, and optionally a preservative agent that prevents microbial growth in said composition.

36. (New) The nail polish remover composition of claim 33, consisting essentially of said propylene carbonate solvent, said water, said pH-buffering agent, a thickener that is soluble and chemically stable in said composition, and optionally a preservative agent that prevents microbial growth in said composition.

37. (New) The nail polish remover composition of claim 33, consisting essentially of said propylene carbonate solvent, said water, said pH-buffering agent, a glycol, a thickener that is soluble and chemically stable in said composition, and optionally a preservative agent that prevents microbial growth in said composition.

38. (New) The nail polish remover composition of claim 33, wherein any organic co-solvent present is a LVP-VOC.
39. (New) The composition of claim 33, wherein said composition comprises between 85% and 90% by weight of said propylene carbonate solvent.
40. (New) The composition of claim 33, further comprising a thickener that is soluble and chemically stable in said composition, and that can increase the viscosity of said composition to a value of between 100 and 10,000 cps at room temperature.
41. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein said thickener is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl ethylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyoxyethylene, microparticulate fumed silica and combinations thereof.
42. (New) The composition of claim 33, wherein said pH-buffering agent maintains the pH of said composition between approximately pH 3.0 and pH 5.0.
43. (New) The composition of claim 33, wherein said pH-buffering agent maintains the pH of said composition at about pH 4.0.
44. (New) The composition of claim 33, wherein said pH-buffering agent is selected from the group consisting of citric acid/citrate buffer, citric acid/dibasic phosphate buffer, acetic acid/acetate buffer, succinic acid/succinate buffer and combinations thereof.
45. (New) The composition of claim 33, further comprising an effective amount of a preservative agent that prevents microbial growth in said composition.
46. (New) The composition of claim 45, wherein said preservative agent is selected from the group consisting of methylparaben, propylparaben, DMDM hydantoin, ethylenediaminetetracetate and combinations thereof.

47. (New) The composition of claim 33, further comprising up to 20% by weight of at least one glycol to increase the solubility of said thickener or said water or both in said propylene carbonate solvent.
48. (New) The composition of claim 47, wherein said glycol is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, methylpropanediol glycol and combinations thereof.
49. (New) The composition of claim 33, wherein said composition is packaged in a container with a reusable applicator.
50. (New) The composition of claim 49, wherein said container has a liquid capacity of between one-eighth and eight ounces.
51. (New) The composition of claim 49, wherein said reusable applicator is a removable applicator.
52. (New) The composition of claim 51, wherein said removable applicator is selected from the group consisting of a brush, a swab, a spatula, and a roller or other rotating device.
53. (New) The composition of claim 49, wherein said reusable applicator is a permanent applicator that is used as a portion of said container.
54. (New) The composition of claim 53, wherein said permanent applicator is selected from the group consisting of a nib, a brush, a comb-like device, an absorbent porous pad, a substantially non-absorbent porous pad, a porous membrane, and a roller or other rotating device.
55. (New) The composition of claim 33, wherein said composition is free of oxidants.
56. (New) A nail polish remover composition consisting essentially of:  
between 85% and 98% by weight of propylene carbonate solvent;

between 1.5% and 15% by weight water;  
an effective amount of a pH-buffering agent that is chemically inert in said composition and that maintains the pH of said composition between approximately pH 2.0 and pH 6.0, wherein any organic co-solvent present is a low vapor pressure volatile organic compound (LVP-VOC) or a low reactivity volatile organic compound (LR-VOC); and optionally one or more of a preservative agent, a thickener, a humectant, a glycol, and glycerol.

57. (New) The composition of claim 56, consisting essentially of

said propylene carbonate solvent;  
said water;  
said pH buffering agent;  
0-13.5% of at least one glycol;  
0-0.5% of glycerol; and  
optionally a preservative agent.

58. (New) The composition of claim 56, consisting essentially of

said propylene carbonate solvent;  
said water;  
said pH buffering agent;  
0-13.5% of at least one glycol;  
0-0.5% of glycerol; and  
optionally a preservative agent or a thickener or both.